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January 13, 2010

Via Electronic Mail & US Mail

Ms. Stephanie Vaughn
ATTN: Lower Passaic River Remedial Project Manager
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
U.S. EPA, Region 2
290 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10007

Re: Winter 2010 Fish Community Survey - Addendum to the Quality Assurance Project Plan - Lower Passaic River Restoration Project Quality Assurance Project Plan: Fish and Decapod Crustacean Tissue Collection for Chemical Analysis and Fish Community Survey - Lower Passaic River Study Area Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, CERCLA Docket No. 02-2007-2009

Dear Ms. Vaughn:

On behalf of the Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA) Cooperating Parties Group (CPG), ***de maximis, inc.*** is submitting the Winter 2010 Fish Community Survey - Addendum to the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP Addendum) - the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project Quality Assurance Project Plan: Fish and Decapod Crustacean Tissue Collection for Chemical Analysis and Fish Community Survey (approved by EPA on August 6, 2009) for review and approval.

The objective of the winter fish community survey is to qualitatively assess the fish community in the Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA) during a maximum 10-day period in the winter months (i.e., late January and early February). Data collected will include the diversity and abundance of fish species present during the winter and their physical characteristics (i.e., weight, length, and gender [when practicable]). The QAPP Addendum updates only worksheets and attachments that are relevant to the winter fish community survey; it does not include updates to those worksheets or attachments that are not relevant to the winter fish community survey effort.

As discussed during our January 12, 2010 telephone conversation, this QAPP Addendum does not include the collection of fish for further analysis. In addition, I have forwarded to the CPG EPA's request to include gross external and internal health assessments of fish species collected during winter community survey for those species which were not collected, or for which health assessment goals were not met, during the summer fish community 2009 survey.

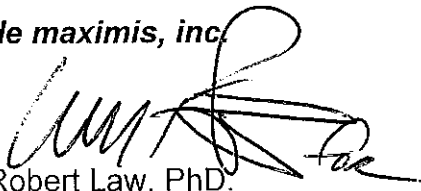
Ms. S. Vaughn
Winter Fish Community Survey QAPP Addendum
January 13, 2010
Page 2

Windward and **de maximis** are mobilizing this week and the week of January 18 and are prepared to commence the winter fish community survey later next week.

Please contact Lisa Saban or me with any questions and comments.

Very truly yours,

de maximis, inc.



Robert Law, PhD.
CPG Project Coordinator

cc: Lisa Baron, USACE
Tim Kubiak, USFWS
Reyhan Mehan, NOAA
Janine MacGregor, NJDEP
Elkins Green, NJDOT
CPG Technical Committee
William Hyatt, CPG Coordinating Counsel